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# THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
8 TOWN SQUARE, PLYMOUTH,  
MASSACHUSETTS 02360

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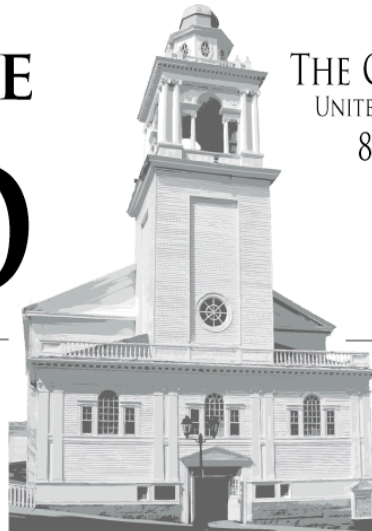


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Volume LXXXI, No. 18

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:00pm

May 24, 2009

Dear Friends,

The Annual Meeting of The Church of the Pilgrimage was held as scheduled on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The most important item on the agenda was the budget and how we are to meet our financial obligations for the next six months, and beyond that, the next eighteen months. I think most of you are aware that the budget accepted for six months was made necessary because the Board of Trustees opted to change the church's fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year. For the past few years the fiscal year has been based upon a July to June schedule.

As you are likely also aware major cuts in budget items were made and in some cases substantially. The major decision was to eliminate the position of Associate Pastor altogether. That cut, along with several others, was painful to make, indeed, and will have ramifications for how church's ministry is to be accomplished. The Sexton's position is now a half-time position with no health care benefits provided. Cuts were made down the line, including substantial reductions to my own compensation package.

As hard as these realities were to accept we will continue to provide as high quality ministry and mission outreach locally and globally as possible. That will require a great deal of lay involvement in areas of the church's life which we can no longer afford to fund. The Ministry Team and I will work together to lay out plans for ministries to which we are accustomed and even new areas yet to be explored and implemented. There is no question, however, that your participation and support will be solicited and necessary.

Not all is doom and gloom! With our commitment to explore in new areas of ministry some very exciting things can happen, and I fully expect that they will. We shall continue to need to address our financial needs and commitments to the church, of course. Those who can afford to increase their giving now have an urgent opportunity to do so. A few give sacrificially to the work of ministry in the name of Christ, but many could do more than they do. Frankly, the level of giving in a church of our size should be much higher than it is. I also encourage all of us to consider remembering the church in our wills. For many that can't be a huge amount, but even small amounts given in large numbers could do a great deal of good in enhancing our rather modest endowment. Astonishingly the largest bequests to our church in the last thirty years or so have come from non-members.

We as a congregation continue to have much for which to be thankful and we have potential among us to realize a faithful response to our belief that all Christian life receives its energy from the Resurrection.

Love,

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Clerk – Lois Post; Moderator – Steven Triffletti; Treasurer – Elizabeth Hughes; Collector – Debra Richters and Nate Davis;  
Music Director – Kelley DePasqua; Organist – Michael Eaton; Office Administrator – Shellie Souza; Sexton – Tony Nightingale;  
World Mission Emphasis – Heifer Project International; Church Building Telephone – 508-747-1341

**On Our Calendar**

**May 24:** Morning worship 10am, Rev. Gary Marks preaching.

**May 25:** Memorial Day-Church Office Closed.

**May 26:** The Advisory Board will meet in the JRC Conference Room at 7pm.

**May 27:** Evening Prayer in the sanctuary at 7:00pm. Choir Rehearsal at 7:30pm.

**May 29:** Memorial Garden Committee Meeting in the JRC Conference Room from 4-6pm

**Coming Events –**

*May 31-Confirmation Sunday.*

*June 2-The Missions and Outreach Committee will hold their meeting at a location yet to be determined.*

*June 6-High School Graduation*

*June 12-The Guild Annual Luncheon*

*June 14-Church School Sunday*

**Office Hours for Rev. Gary L. Marks**

May 26-29: Rev. Marks will be in the office at 9:30am.

**Office Hours for Rev. Heather Moody**

May 26 and 29: Rev. Moody will be in the office at 10:00am.

May 28: Rev. Moody will be at home working on her sermon.

**Church Record**

**Hospitalized:** It was wrongly reported last week that Eileen Ganem is recuperating at Golden Living. She is, in fact, at Radius Healthcare Center.

**Baptisms:** On May 17, 2009 Katelyn Ann Shaughnessy, daughter of Lynn (Potvin) and Daniel Shaughnessy, was baptized during the Sunday service.

**In Memoriam:** On May 15, 2009 Rev. Marks conducted a graveside service for Jane Dear.

**Flowers:** The flowers on the communion table are in loving memory of her husband, Douglas Grey. Given by Shirley Grey and family. The flowers on the right side are in loving memory of Mrs. Elsie Raymond. Given by Charlotte Cavicchi and Robert Raymond.

**N O T E S**

The **Hats Off to Music** evening at the church was one of the best events of its kind ever at The Church of the Pilgrimage. Allerton Hall was full to overflowing and the spirit in the room was magical. Everyone there had a marvelous time. The music, the poetry, the acting was nothing short of sensational. The talent displayed by kids and adults was stunning. I can't thank Kelley DePasqua, the choir, the "extras" enough for a wonderful evening of fun and joy at the church. Gary

**The Memorial Garden** is in bloom and 3 lovely benches given in memory of loved ones are in place awaiting visitors. Please come and enjoy a walk through this solemn space or come and sit for a while. The stones that line the east side of the garden are the inspiration stones that enhance our garden. These stones are one way the memorial garden committee is raising money to payback the memorial fund for the creation of this beautiful space. You can purchase one of these stones for \$30 and it will be inscribed with your choice of inspirational words or a loved ones name. After church on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, our memorial garden will be dedicated and inspirational stones will be laid in the path. With Memorial Day close at hand, consider this way of memorializing a loved one.

Our sympathies are extended to **Brenda MacLeod and her family.** Brenda's mother, Phyllis Stanley recently passed away.

**Important Dates to Remember**

May 31: **Confirmation Sunday.**

June 14: **Church School and Graduating Seniors Sunday.**

Our children will provide some of the leadership for our regular worship service. We will have a service of recognition and blessing for our graduating high school seniors. We will also recognize the adults who serve as Sunday School Teachers. Church picnic at Pinewood Lodge to follow the worship service.

June 21: **Rev. Heather's** last Sunday at The Church of the Pilgrimage. Worship will be a celebration of our ministry together over the past 3½ years. Following worship, there will be a reception in Allerton Hall.

**Junior High Youth Group Overview**

What a great time we had this past Saturday at the Soule Homestead in Middleboro! We had a great time preparing a section of the "Children's Garden" and planting it with bean seedlings. We also enjoyed exploring the farm through letterboxing, an activity that has gained an international following. Be sure to stop by the Soule Homestead this summer to check out the progress of the "bean tepee: made from climbing bean plants.

**Senior High Youth Group Overview**

Calling all 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders—Our last Senior High Youth Group activity of the year will be held **Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-9:30 at Hoyt Pond.** We will have games, swimming, a cookout, and a campfire. Bring anything that you would want for an evening at the beach. We encourage ALL Senior Highs to attend, even if you were not actively involved this year. This will be our LAST CHANCE to spend time as a youth group with Rev. Heather, and she would like to see as many of you there as

possible. Please call 508-746-1077 by Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> so we can have a head count and so you can get directions.

### **Confirmation News**

Confirmation Sunday is May 31<sup>st</sup>. Meet in Allerton Hall at 9:30am.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Bibles!**

We're working on gathering a comprehensive list of this year's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who will be receiving a Bible on Church School Sunday (June 14<sup>th</sup>). However, we want to be sure no one is left out—so parents, please call the church office (508-746-3026) with the spelling of your child's name as you would have it appear on her or his Bible.

### **Attention Graduating Seniors and Parents**

We want to honor our graduating high school seniors during worship on **June 14<sup>th</sup>** and we would like to publish your name and any information you have about your future plans in an upcoming issue of the Herald. Please call the church office to let us know if you will be able to be present on **June 14<sup>th</sup>** and to share what's next for you.

**Golf Tournament Hole Sponsorship:** The Annual Church of the Pilgrimage September Golf Tournament will be held Saturday morning, September 19, 2009 at Southers Marsh Golf Club in West Plymouth. We welcome corporate and individual hole sponsors (\$100) to make this fundraiser a success. Call Mike Harrington 508-747-2060 or Judy Mitchell 508-746-3959 for more information.

### **Ministry of Meals**

If you know of anyone who might be in need of a meal or a visit from someone in our church please contact the church office (508-746-3026). Trace Sears is the Deacon in charge of the Ministry of Meals for the months of May and June.

The Rhubarb is in! **Time to start making and freezing pies for the Harvest Fair.** Our goal is to have as many frozen pies prepared as possible well ahead of the October rush. By spreading out the work over the next several months, it also gives us an opportunity to make a greater variety of pies using what is in season or what is on sale. To assure a uniform product, all pies should be put into the disposable pie plates that I will provide (look for the box in Allerton Hall next week), and all pies should be made using the following piecrust recipe (but may be filled with your choice of fruit- custards don't freeze well). Be sure to wrap the pies in a large plastic bag and label what kind of pie it is (permanent marker written right on the bag is the best way-tags can get lost and tape often doesn't stick). If you do not have room in your freezer for all your pies, contact me and I will see to it that they get

into a big freezer. Any number of pies will be well received; the traditional apple, blueberry and strawberry-rhubarb are the best sellers. The pies will be sold frozen (and unbaked!). Piecrust coaching is available upon request. Thank you very much for your participation. Contact me with any questions: Jenny 508-747-7168 or poetick@verizon.net

### **Piecrust recipe for frozen pies**

2 sticks unsalted butter, chilled and cut into cubes

2 cups all purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon sugar

1/4 cup ice water

Mix dry ingredients well. Work in butter using two knives or a pastry blender (not your hands as they will warm the butter too much). Once butter has been well incorporated (reduced to peas sized pieces) add ice water and toss with fork to moisten dough. Turn dough out onto counter and rub dough into the counter several times with the heel of your hand. Form the dough into two discs, wrap in waxed paper or plastic and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

### **Congregational Project Honoring Our Ministry with the Rev. Heather A. Moody**

We have been blessed to work and minister with Rev. Heather for the past 3½ years. As part of her Service of Farewell on June 21, 2009, the Transition Team would like to present her with several gifts from the Congregation. We're hoping to make her a memory/goodbye book that everyone in the Congregation can participate in. We'd like each member of the Congregation (including and especially children and youth) or community to use Legal Sized paper to share some thoughts with Heather as she leaves. The content is entirely up to you--a note about your hopes for her future, memories of work that you've done together, artwork that you'd like to share with her, quotes, funny stories, etc. The pages will be collected from now until June 14th. They will then be bound into a book with a custom cover that we can give to her during her Farewell Service on June 21, 2009. We'd like to make this a surprise, so PLEASE try and be discreet as you work on your piece of the project. Finished pages for the book can be given to Christina Borel and Jessica Hague (781.337.8293 or email [christina.borel@gmail.com](mailto:christina.borel@gmail.com)), and it would be helpful if you can contact us so that we can arrange a time/location with you. We can also answer questions about the project, but please feel free to use your imagination and creativity.

Pastoral Leadership Transition Team: The Advisory Board has already begun planning for the shift in responsibilities made necessary by the elimination of the Associate Pastor position. We recognize some of the challenges we face in the coming months as we seek to maintain and grow our vital ministries with reduced staff. The Board has appointed a transition team to work with both Rev. Heather and Rev. Gary to identify critical functions currently served by the Associate Pastor, and ways in which Lay leaders may assume some of the responsibilities of the Associate Pastor on her departure, such as Youth Fellowship, Church School Programs, Confirmation, and visitation. We also hope to find ways to support the work of the Senior Pastor as he continues to lead the congregation during this time of transition. In short, we will be looking to identify the gifts for ministry God has given people in our congregation, and helping people put those gifts into action through increased opportunities for service in the church. We welcome your thoughts, concerns, and most importantly, your prayers in our work. Your transition team: Jenny Healy, Trace Sears, and Christina Borel.



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SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10:00 AM  
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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